

Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi served in the State Assembly from 1974-1976 and in the State Senate from 1976-1990, including a term as Senate Majority Leader. He became California's first elected Insurance Commissioner, serving from 1991-1995, then was appointed by President Bill Clinton as the Dep



uty Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior from 1995-1998. He returned to the California Department of Insurance in 2003, after his reelection as Insurance Commissioner.

Garamendi is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley and Harvard Business School, earning an MBA. A former Academic All-American football player and champion wrestler, he later volunteered and served in the Peace Corps in Ethiopia with his wife, Patti. They have six grown children and nine grandchildren.

On January 8, 2007, John Garamendi became the 46th Lieutenant Governor of California. He brings to the office 32 years of public service and is well positioned to make the office a powerful advocate for families and hard working Californians, and one that tirelessly supports higher education, health care, the environment, and job creation.

During his 14 years as a State Senator and two years in the Assembly, Garamendi chaired the Joint Committee on Science and Technology, the Senate Health and Welfare Committee, the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee, and served as the Senate Majority Leader. He authored laws that protected Lake Tahoe and Mono Lake, reformed health care delivery, established emergency medical services, created a work oriented welfare program, revised the State's tax code, and developed a state agenda for economic competitiveness and scientific advancement. Additionally, he initiated a successful ballot proposition that provided \$18 billion

for mass transportation and highways and funded senior centers across the State.



In 1991, Garamendi became California's first elected Insurance Commissioner. Harvey Rosenfield, the author of Proposition 103 and a consumer rights advocate, observed that Garamendi's first term in office was "an all-out battle between the insurance industry on one side and Garamendi, on behalf of the voters, on the other side." Rosenfield stated that Garamendi played, "the crucial role...in transforming the dictates of the voters into an estimated \$23 billion of savings in auto insurance alone." During this first term, he produced rebates to consumers of over \$1 billion in excessive premiums, created an aggressive anti fraud police force, and developed a universal health care plan proposal.

In 1995, President Bill Clinton appointed Garamendi as Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, the number two position in the Department. There, he negotiated the Headwaters Forest Agreement, conducted the Cal-Fed water negotiations, and put an end to the dumping of nuclear wastes in the California Desert. Along with other key department deputies, he worked with Al Gore to prepare the Americ

